

December 2004

DTSC is one of six Boards and Departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency. The Department's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment, to ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality, by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.

State of California



California  
Environmental  
Protection Agency



## ***More offsite soil and groundwater sampling to be conducted near Wyle Labs site in Norco, California***



*Looking north along Hillside, this photo shows part of the area where soil samples will be taken along the edge of the street*

Beginning in late December 2004 or early January 2005, workers will test the soil and groundwater in the area of Hillside Avenue, Third Street, and Golden West Lane in Norco, California. The purpose is to look for chemical contamination that may have come from the former Wyle Laboratories site.

This sampling is part of the ongoing environmental investigation of Wyle and its surrounding area. Other sampling will be done in the coming months in other offsite areas, as well as on the Wyle property itself.

Sampling results will help us find out how far out from Wyle's northwestern boundary contamination has moved and where we may need to do even more testing. The information will also be used to help us design a system to clean up contamination found on Golden West Lane.

Our agency is the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). Our mission is to protect human health and the environment by overseeing the investigation and cleanup of the site. Former site owner Wyle Laboratories is paying for the testing and cleanup. Work will be conducted by Wyle's contractors with the oversight of DTSC.

The main chemicals we are looking for are a solvent called TCE (trichloroethene), perchlorate, and NDMA (N-nitrosodimethylamine), a chemical used in a variety of industries.

### **Previous offsite findings**

Tests done earlier this year found TCE vapors in the soil on Golden West Lane, including the yards of five homes. This street is right next to the northwestern border of the Wyle site. TCE vapors were also found in the air inside one of the homes. At that home, a new ventilation system was installed and operated to clear out the vapors.

Tests of a private groundwater well at the corner of Hillside Avenue and Third Street showed unsafe levels of TCE and perchlorate. That well was not used for drinking water.

## **Locations and types of sampling planned**

This current round of sampling will consist of the following activities:

- *Installing two groundwater monitoring wells at the side of the street on Golden West Lane.* These wells will be only four inches in diameter, and will be covered, sealed, and flush with the pavement. Workers will continue to take groundwater samples from these wells every three months. This takes only a few minutes each time and will not block traffic.

- *Taking soil borings along both Hillside Avenue and Third Street.* These borings will sample the groundwater and/or soil vapors. On Hillside, four borings will be drilled at the edge of the road in the 2300 block. On Third Street, workers will drill along the side of the road every 100 feet in the 900 block.

The contractor, Environ, will get all required permits from the City and County before beginning work.

## **Little impact on traffic, dust**

A few trucks will be used to do the drilling for well installation and soil boring, so there will not be a noticeable increase in traffic from heavy equipment. The drilling and sampling will not block the streets, and no lane closures will be needed. Traffic cones will be placed around the sampling trucks.

The activities will create only a small amount of dust, which will be controlled by lightly spraying the soil with water if needed.

## **Work hours and duration**

Work will take place Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The installation of the wells, the soil borings, and the collection of soil gas samples is expected to take no more than five days.

## **Upcoming on-site activities related to sampling**

At the same time that the offsite sampling is taking place, workers will begin tearing down some of the buildings on the Wyle property so that those areas can be sampled. These are buildings where TCE and other chemicals may have been used or stored. The soil and groundwater beneath the buildings will be sampled as part of the on-site investigation.

Building demolition on the site is scheduled to begin the end of December 2004 and is expected to take several months to complete. This demolition will not affect the traffic, dust level, or noise level of the surrounding community.

## What happens next

The results from the sampling along Hillside Avenue, Third Street, and Golden West Lane are expected to be available within four weeks after the work is finished. These results will be verified at a certified laboratory. If we find chemical contamination in the soil or groundwater, we will take more samples farther out away from the site to find out how far the contamination extends.

Sampling results will also be used to provide information about the groundwater depth and flow in the area. This will help us design and operate a system to clean up TCE vapors found on Golden West Lane.

The overall investigation, which will include both on-site and off-site testing, will continue until we have enough information to design a plan to clean up all contamination from the Wyle property, however far it extends.

## Whom to contact at DTSC

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## More information available in the libraries and at our office

Documents about the Wyle Labs site, including the “Remedial Investigation Work Plan” that includes the details of the sampling along Hillside Avenue, Third Street, and Golden West Lane, are at the following locations:

Norco City Hall  
2870 Clark Avenue  
(951) 735-3900

Corona Library  
650 South Main Street, Corona  
(951) 736-2381

The complete set of files for the Wyle project is at our agency’s office:

Dept. of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, California 90630

Call (714) 484-5337 (File Room) for an appointment.

**Notice to the Hearing Impaired:** For more information, you may use the California State Relay Service at 1(888) 877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Kim Foreman at (714) 484-5324.

*For more information about DTSC, visit our website at **[www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov)***



DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC  
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***INSIDE: Notice of off-site sampling near Wyle Labs***